

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are pending in this application. In the last Office Action, claims 1, 8, 10, 12-15, 20 and 26 were rejected under § 103 as obvious over Bayrakeri, and claims 2, 4-5, 11, 16 and 21-23 were rejected as obvious over Bayrakeri in view of Suzuki. In addition, claims 3, 6-7, 9, 17-19, 24-25 and 27 were objected to as dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

This Response cancels claims 1-2, 4-5, 8, 10-16, 20-23, and 26 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter of the claims as initially filed for possible prosecution in a subsequent continuation application. This Response also amends claims 3, 6, 9, 17-18, 24-25, and 27 to include all limitations of any base claims.

As noted above, claims 3, 6, 9, 17-19, 24-25, and 27 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. These claims have now been rewritten in independent form. For at least these reasons, Applicants submit that these claims are patentable.

Please replace the previously-submitted drawings with the attached replacement drawings. The only change in these drawings is that the attached replacement drawings are more formalized.

An Invention Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being filed herewith for the Examiner's consideration.


Applicant's: CHEOK et al
Serial No. 09/613,292
Response to Office Action of May 7, 2004

Applicants respectfully request entry of the above amendments and favorable action in connection with this application. The Office is hereby authorized to charge the three-month Extension of Time and all additional fees regarding this filing or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 to Kenyon & Kenyon Deposit Account No. 11-0600. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4310 to discuss any matter concerning this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenyon & Kenyon

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